



News Release

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PREMIERE CONTEMPORARY QUILT ART SHOW COMES TO SAN JOSE Quilt National 2005 Makes Museum of Quilts & Textiles its Only West Coast Stop

SAN JOSE, Calif., July 28, 2006 – The San Jose Museum of Quilts & Textiles is pleased to present *Quilt National 2005* this October, widely recognized as the premiere exhibition of contemporary art quilts. The collection chosen to travel to the San Jose Museum of Quilts & Textiles will feature 45 of the original 81 pieces juried into *Quilt National 2005*, more than any other venue outside of its home in Athens, Ohio, and the only one in the western United States. Included in the exhibition are the works of five California artists: Jean Cacicedo of Berkeley, Judith Content of Palo Alto, Robert Leathers of Jamul, Angela Moll of Santa Barbara, and Dinah Sargeant of Newhall. The exhibition is accompanied by a full-color catalogue. *Quilt National 2005* opens October 10, 2006 and runs through January 7, 2007. The Museum will host an opening reception on Sunday, October 15, 2006, 2:00-4:00pm. The reception is open to the public and free with admission.

Begun in 1979 as an exhibition venue for quilt makers working outside the traditional mainstream, *Quilt National* has evolved into the world's foremost peer-juried exhibition of contemporary quilt art. The brainchild of well-known Ohio artist Nancy Crow, among others, *Quilt National* opens every other year at the Dairy Barn Southeastern Cultural Arts Center in Athens, Ohio. At the close of the exhibition, the collection is broken into three parts, which then travel the country for two years. With its three galleries, the San Jose Museum of Quilts & Textiles is able to display two of the three traveling collections.

The entire collection of *Quilt National 2005* showcases 81 works chosen from more than 1,200 entries, representing artists from all over the world. The final exhibition presents a complex, ever-expanding and evolving view of the quilt as a fine art medium. A satisfying and challenging mix of established and emerging artists, the exhibition embraces the quilt as art, from interpretations of the traditional bed coverings to the use of high-tech materials and techniques, from personal expression to universal appeal.

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Quilt National 2005 is produced and circulated by the Dairy Barn Southeastern Ohio Cultural Arts Center, Athens, Ohio. *Quilt National 2005* has been supported, in part, by “Advancing the Arts Initiative,” an initiative of Community Foundation Silicon Valley, funded by the James Irvine Foundation and the David and Lucile Packard Foundation; by a grant from Arts Council Silicon Valley, in partnership with the County of Santa Clara and the California Arts Council; the City of San Jose; the David and Lucile Packard Foundation; East Bay Heritage Quilters; harmonia mundi; and the Santa Clara Valley Quilt Association.

Founded in 1977, the San Jose Museum of Quilts & Textiles is the oldest museum of its kind in the United States and in 2005 became one of the top 10 attractions in San Jose. Museum and Museum Store hours are: 10:00am-5:00pm Tuesday through Sunday; open until 8:00pm Thursdays; closed Mondays and major holidays. Effective October 1, 2006, admission is \$6.50 general; \$5 students and seniors; and free to museum members and children under 13. Admission is free on the first Thursday of each month. The San Jose Museum of Quilts & Textiles is located at 520 South First Street in downtown San Jose. For more information, call 408-971-0323 or visit www.sjqiltmuseum.org.

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Editor’s Note: To see available images go to http://www.sjqiltmuseum.org/quiltNatl_PRimages.htm